Submission Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
Appl. No. 09/486,677
Group Art Unit: 1621

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A mixture of polymers comprising random fatty alcohol alkoxylates according to the general formula (I):

$$R^1O[(EO)_n(PO)_m]-H \qquad (I)$$

wherein R^1 represents an alkyl group having from about 6 to about 22 carbon atoms, each EO represents $-CH_2CH_2O-$, each PO independently represents $-C(CH_3)HCH_2O-$ or $-CH_2C(CH_3)HO-$, and wherein n represents the average number of EO units present in each random fatty alcohol alkoxylate and has a value of from about 3 to about 5, and wherein m represents the average number of PO units present in each random fatty alcohol alkoxylate and has a value of from about 2 to about 2.5, wherein the mixture exhibits a cold cloud point below 0°C.

11-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Previously Presented) The mixture according to claim 10, wherein R^1O represents a fatty alcohol residue derived from a fatty alcohol mixture, said mixture comprising at least about 30% by weight of alcohols having from about 14 to about 18 carbon atoms and up to about 70% by weight of alcohols having from about 6 to about 12 carbon atoms.

15. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a mixture of polymers comprising random fatty alcohol alkoxylates according to the general formula (I) :

$$R^1O[(EO)_n(PO)_m]-H \qquad (I)$$

wherein R^1 represents an alkyl group having from about 6 to about 22 carbon atoms, each EO represents $-CH_2CH_2O-$, each PO independently represents $-C(CH_3)HCH_2O-$ or $-CH_2C(CH_3)HO-$, and wherein n represents the average number of EO units present in each random fatty alcohol alkoxylate and has a value of from about 3 to about 5, and wherein m represents the average number of PO units present in each random fatty alcohol alkoxylate and has a value of from about 2 to about 2.5; said process comprising reacting ethylene oxide, propylene oxide and fatty alcohol in the presence of an aqueous base, wherein the propylene oxide and the ethylene oxide are present during the reaction in a molar ratio of from about 10:90 to about 60:40, and wherein the mixture exhibits a cold cloud point below 0°C.

16. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 15, wherein the propylene oxide and the ethylene oxide are present during the reaction in a molar ratio of from about 10:90 to about 50:50.

17. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 15, wherein the propylene oxide and the ethylene oxide are present during the reaction in a molar ratio of from about 25:75 to about 50:50.

18. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 15, wherein the propylene oxide and the ethylene oxide are present during the reaction in a molar ratio of from about 25:75 to about 40:60.

19. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 15, wherein said fatty alcohol is a mixture of at least two fatty alcohols, said mixture comprising at least about 30% by weight of alcohols having from about 14 to about 18 carbon atoms and up to about 70% by weight of alcohols having from about 6 to about 12 carbon atoms.

20. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 15, wherein said aqueous base comprises a hydroxide selected from the group consisting of alkali metal hydroxides and alkali earth metal hydroxides.

21. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 20, wherein said hydroxide comprises potassium hydroxide.

22. (Previously Presented) The product of the process according to claim 15.

23. (Currently Amended) A water-dilutable concentrate comprising an active ingredient and a surfactant, said surfactant comprising a mixture of polymers comprising random fatty alcohol alkoxylates according to the general formula (I):

$$R^1O[(EO)_n(PO)_m]\text{-}H \qquad (I)$$

wherein R^1 represents an alkyl group having from about 6 to about 22 carbon atoms, each EO represents $-CH_2CH_2O-$, each PO independently represents $-C(CH_3)HCH_2O-$ or $-CH_2C(CH_3)HO-$, wherein n represents the average number of EO units present in each random fatty alcohol alkoxylate and has a value of from about 3 to about 5, and wherein m represents the average number of PO units present in each random fatty alcohol alkoxylate and has a value of from about 2 to about 2.5, wherein the mixture exhibits a cold cloud point below 0°C.

24. (Previously Presented) The water-dilutable concentrate according to claim 23, wherein said active ingredient comprises one or more components selected from the group consisting of detergents, agrochemicals and pesticides.

25. (Previously Presented) The water-dilutable concentrate according to claim 23, wherein said active ingredient comprises a detergent, and wherein said surfactant is present in an amount of from about 10% to about 30% by weight, based on the active

ingredient.

26. (Previously Presented) The water-dilutable concentrate according to claim 23, wherein said active ingredient comprises an agrochemical and/or a pesticide, and wherein said surfactant is present in an amount of from about 0.1% to about 15% by weight, based on the active ingredient.

27-29. (Cancelled).

30. (Previously Presented) The water-dilutable concentrate according to claim 23, wherein R^1O represents a fatty alcohol residue derived from a fatty alcohol mixture, said mixture comprising at least about 30% by weight of alcohols having from about 14 to about 18 carbon atoms and up to about 70% by weight of alcohols having from about 6 to about 12 carbon atoms.